

BWSC-NRD-2016-02

Natural Resource Damages Assessment and Restoration Program

Mill River/Taunton Watershed Restoration

Response to Questions

Q. Does the NRD Program expect private landowners that may benefit from a project to contribute financially or via in-kind services?

A. The NRD Program does not expect or require that contribution however it is considered as part of the Evaluation Criteria. As stated in Section 3.D.3.k. of the Grant Announcement and Application (GAA) (emphasis added):

Leveraging of Additional Resources: Project partners representing a broad range of community and other interests demonstrate commitment to provide matching funds and in-kind services. While matching funds are not required, leveraging of non-NRD resources is preferred because it extends the availability of restoration funds and therefore increases the resource benefits provided by the funds.

However, applicants will need to ensure that the requirements in Section 3.C. (Eligibility) and Attachment D (Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Statement Form) that may apply to the private landowner are met.

Q. Do circumstances come into play in looking at restoration benefit to an individual property? For example, restoration of a riverbank resource area/enhancement of a river channel landscape may benefit a private property owner in the interest of improving the function of the ecosystem. In such a case, could the individual's provision of access to the property and consent to allow the alteration/improvement to the property be considered a contribution to the project, rather than a benefit to the property owner, if the property owner was not asking for/anticipating the benefit in advance of the project proposal?

A. Project partners may contribute funding and in-kind services to the proposed restoration project. All project partners, including private landowners providing access for implementation of restoration projects, must be identified in the Application and letters of commitment that document their contributions to the project, including permission to access the property, must be included in the application.